



National Cable & Telecommunications Association

Jill Lockett
Vice President
Program Network Policy

July 24, 2003

EX PARTE

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20054

Re: CS Docket No. 98-120

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On July 23, 2003, Nickolas Davatzes, President & CEO of A&E Television Networks, Johnathan Rodgers, President & CEO of TV One, and Jill Lockett of the National Cable & Telecommunications Association, met with Commissioner Adelstein and his legal advisor for media issues, Johanna Mikes. In this meeting, Mr. Davatzes and Mr. Rodgers reiterated cable program networks' opposition to giving broadcasters another advantage over cable networks by requiring cable operators to carry broadcasters' analog and digital signals during the transition or to carry broadcasters' multicast digital signals after the transition. They explained the significant negative impact a dual or multicast must carry requirement would have on their businesses. Mr. Rodgers described his efforts to launch a new cable network aimed at African Americans and said his attempts to gain cable carriage for such a network would be significantly harmed by giving broadcasters additional must carry rights.

Any questions may be address to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ **Jill Lockett**

Jill Lockett

cc: Commissioner Adelstein
Johanna Mikes